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Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

[Signature]  
Signature

Patent  
Our Case No. 10672-28

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:	)		
Dhindsa	)		
	)	Examiner:	Kasztejna
Serial No.: 10/731,327	)		
	)	Group Art Unit:	3739
Filed: December 8, 2003	)		
	)		
For: Endoscope Valve	)		
Assembly and Method	)		

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§  
1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby submits documents A1-A6 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for  
consideration by the Examiner. Copies of these documents are being provided herewith.

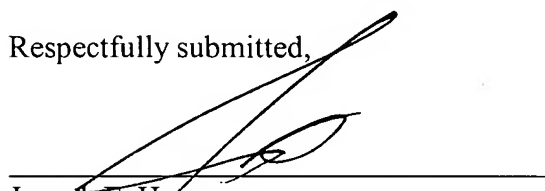
Documents A1-A5 are in Japanese, with English abstracts being provided for documents A1 and  
A5. Documents A1-A5 were cited in a Japanese "Notification of Reasons for Rejection" in a

Japanese patent application related to the present application. A copy of this Notification in both Japanese and English is being provided herewith as Document A6.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Further, Applicant reserves the right to contest that any of the information submitted herewith is prior art against the present application.

Dated: January 29, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. F. Hetz', is written over a horizontal line.

Joseph F. Hetz  
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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/731,327	CASE NO. 10672-28
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE December 8, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3739
(use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT(S): Dhindsa

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
	A1	HEI07-194521	1-1995	Japan	Yes
	A2	HEI01-65004	1-1989	Japan	No
	A3	SHO63-286128	11-1988	Japan	No
	A4	SHO58-10031	1-1983	Japan	No
	A5	2000-116597	4-2000	Japan	Yes

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS <small>(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.)</small>	
	A6	Japanese and English-Language Versions of "Notification of Reasons for Rejection," Patent Application No. 2002-557449, December 15, 2006, 8 pages.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.